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NEW DELHI, FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1951

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

RESOLUTION

TARIFFS

New Delhi, the 13th July 1951

No. 8(2)-T.B./51.—While granting protection to the indigenous Soda Ash Industry for a period of three years ending March 1953, the Government of India, in their Resolution No. 8(4)-T.B./49, dated the 22nd February 1950 accepted *inter alia* recommendation No. (viii) of para. 1 thereof, which called for a review by the Tariff Board towards the end of 1950, of the protective duty-cum-subsidy scheme. The Board has ~~accord~~ submitted its Report. Its recommendations are as follows:

- (1) In view of the altered conditions regarding the prices and availability of imports, (a) the subsidy should be discontinued, and (b) either the rates of duty including surcharge, should be reduced to 30 per cent. preferential and 40 per cent. standard, keeping the tariff value unchanged at Rs. 13-8-0 per cwt., or the tariff value should be reduced to Rs. 9-12 0 per cwt., without changing the rates of duties.
- (2) If at any time during the present period of protection (i.e. up to 31st March 1953), foreign ash, particularly magadi ash, begins to be imported on such a scale as to offer effective competition to indigenous ash and if as a consequence, the prices of indigenous ash tend to fall to an uneconomic level, the industry may apply for a review of the protective duty under Section 4(1) of the Indian Tariff Act. A careful watch should be maintained over the imports of soda ash in order to enable timely action to be taken to safeguard the position of the domestic industry.
- (3) Salt used in the manufacture of Soda Ash should be exempted from the salt cess.
- (4) Steps should be taken to expedite the payments due to the manufacturers on account of the subsidy.
- (5) Government should give urgent consideration to the possibility of taking more effective measure under the Supply and Prices of Goods Act, 1950 towards enforcing the maximum prices of soda ash and ensuring an equitable distribution of the available supply.
- (6) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research should examine the possibility of utilising sodium sulphate in the consumption of soda ash (particularly, heavy ash which has to be imported from abroad).

2. Government accept all the above recommendations with the exception of recommendation No. (3). As regards recommendation No. 1(b) the rates of duty

including surcharge on soda ash would be reduced to 30 per cent. *ad valorem* preferential and 40 per cent. *ad valorem* standard, keeping the tariff value unchanged at Rs. 13-8-0 per cwt. As regards recommendation No. (3), Government do not consider it necessary to exempt salt used in the manufacture of indigenous soda ash from the Salt Cess in view of the fact that the price fixed for indigenous soda ash at the same level as that for the imported light soda ash is above the fair price fixed by the Tariff Board. This equated price for both indigenous and imported light soda ash now fixed should be taken advantage of by the indigenous industry to whom the adventitious benefit accrues, to strengthen their financial position and reserves, and this factor will be taken into consideration when next reviewing the case of the soda ash industry.

NOTIFICATIONS

TARIFFS

New Delhi, the 13th July 1951

No. 8(2)-T.B./51.—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Indian Tariff Act, 1934 (XXXII of 1934), the Central Government hereby directs that the existing rate of protective duty specified in column 3 of the table hereunder printed in respect of the articles mentioned in column 2 thereof shall be reduced as indicated in the corresponding entry in column 4 of the said table:—

THE TABLE

Item No. of Tariff	Name of articles	Existing rate of duty	Reduced rate of duty
1	2	3	4
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28 (4) Soda ash, including calcined natural soda and manufactured sesqui-carbonates			
	(a) manufactured in a British Colony	40% ad valorem	30% ad valorem
	(b) not manufactured in a British Colony.	50% ad valorem	40% ad valorem

S. A. VENKATARAMAN, Secy

New Delhi, the 13th July 1951

No. PC-7(2)/50.—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 4 of the Supply and Prices of Goods Act, 1950 (LXX of 1950) and in supersession of the notification of the Government of India in the late Ministry of Industry and Supply No. SRO-66, dated the 15th January 1951, the Central Government hereby fixes the following schedule of maximum prices of certain varieties of soda ash

SCHEDULE

Serial No.	Variety of soda ash	Maximum price in certain specified localities	Maximum price that may be charged by a distributor	Maximum price that may be charged by a whole-sale dealer	Maximum price that may be charged by a retail dealer
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Light Soda ash manufactured in India or imported from U. K.	Bombay—Rs. 22-9-0 per cwt. ex- godown/F.O.R. Calcutta—Rs. 22-5-0 per cwt. ex- godown/F.O.R. Madras—Rs. 22-7-0 per cwt. ex- godown/F.O.R. Gauhati—Rs. 25-15-0 per cwt. ex- godown/F.O.R. Dhubri—Rs. 25-13-0 per cwt. ex- godown/F.O.R. Mithapur—Rs. 22-5-0 per cwt. ex- Works. Dharangdhara —Rs. 22-5-0 per cwt. ex- Works.	The price specified in column 2 plus (a) actual railway freight by goods train from any of the localities specified in col. 2 to the place of destination, and (b) handling charges not exceeding annas eight per bag of 1 cwt.	The price specified in column 3 plus a margin not exceeding annas eight per bag of 1 cwt.	The price specified in column 4 plus a margin not exceeding Rs. 1-12-0 per bag of 1 cwt.
2.	Heavy Soda ash imported from U. K.	Bombay—Rs. 22-9-0 per cwt. ex- godown/F.O.R. Calcutta—Rs. 22-5-0 per cwt. ex- godown/F.O.R. Madras—Rs. 22-7-0 per cwt. ex- godown/F.O.R.	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
3.	Khewra (Pakistan) Soda ash.	Rs. 30-11-0 per cwt. F.O.R. India/ Pakistan Border.	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
4.	Magadi Soda ash (Imported).	Bombay—Rs. 19-0-0 per cwt. ex- godown/F.O.R. Calcutta—Rs. 18-12-0 per cwt. ex- godown/F.O.R. Madras—Rs. 18-14-0 per cwt. ex- godown/F.O.R.			

Note.—These prices are exclusive of local taxes, such as Sales Tax, Octroi, etc., which may be charged extra.

S. K. DATTA. Dy Secy.

